

Applic. No. 10/620,588

Amdt. dated June 30, 2004

Reply to Office action of April 6, 2004

Claim Amendments

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (original): A refrigerating unit, comprising:

a cooling chamber having two longitudinal sides;

a storage compartment removably guided into and out of said cooling chamber in a movement direction, said storage compartment removably guided into said cooling chamber along said movement direction as far as a closing position;

said cooling chamber having a parallel-guiding device disposed on said two longitudinal sides along said movement direction;

said parallel-guiding device having:

a mating toothed configuration;

two rollers coupled approximately rigidly to each other, lying opposite each other at least substantially on a given axis, and each having an external toothed configuration with an identical pitch circle diameter to

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be rollingly coupled to said mating toothed configuration, one of said mating toothed configuration and said rollers positionally fixed with respect to said cooling chamber, a roller of said two rollers having a running surface, said running surface supporting said roller in said cooling chamber near said closing position; and

an end section reached by said rollers along said movement direction by said closing position of said storage compartment; and

a disengagement device for disengaging at least part of said mating toothed configuration from said external toothed configuration of at least one of said two rollers, said disengagement device:

being disposed at said end section and having a disengagement length sufficient to compensate for an oblique positioning of said storage compartment in and counter to said movement direction arising from an offset of said two rollers from one another along said mating toothed configuration; and

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being a sloping plane pushing said external toothed configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration in a direction along said given axis approximately before said storage compartment reaches said closing position.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The refrigerating unit according to claim 1, wherein said ~~roller~~ has two rollers each have an energy accumulator for pressing said ~~roller~~ external toothed configuration against said disengagement device.

Claim 3 (original): The refrigerating unit according to claim 2, wherein said energy accumulator is a spring.

Claim 4 (original): The refrigerating unit according to claim 1, wherein said disengagement device is a sloping plane pushing said external toothed configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration in a direction along said given axis immediately before said storage compartment reaches said closing position.

Claim 5 (original): The refrigerating unit according to claim 2, wherein:

said energy accumulator provides a force; and

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said roller is divided substantially perpendicularly with respect to said given axis into:

a positionally-fixed section having a smooth-faced running surface; and

an externally-toothed section displaceably mounted with respect to said given axis, in engagement with said mating toothed configuration; and supported on said positionally-fixed section by said energy accumulator, said externally-toothed section to be brought out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration counter to said force by said sloping plane at least immediately before said roller reaches said end section.

Claim 6 (original): The refrigerating unit according to claim 5, wherein said externally-toothed section is to be brought out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration counter to said force by said sloping plane at least immediately before said storage compartment reaches said closing position.

Claim 7 (original): The refrigerating unit according to claim 1, wherein:

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said disengagement device is a sloping plane pushing said external toothed configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration in a direction along said given axis approximately before said roller reaches said end section; and

said running surface supports said roller in said cooling chamber approximately at said closing position.

Claim 8 (original): A refrigerating unit, comprising:

a cooling chamber having two longitudinal sides;

a storage compartment removably guided into and out of said cooling chamber in a movement direction, said storage compartment removably guided into said cooling chamber along said movement direction as far as a closing position;

said cooling chamber having a parallel-guiding device disposed on said two longitudinal sides along said movement direction;

said parallel-guiding device having:

a mating toothed configuration;

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two rollers coupled approximately rigidly to each other, lying opposite each other at least substantially on a given axis, and each having an external toothed configuration with an identical pitch circle diameter to be rollingly coupled to said mating toothed configuration, one of said mating toothed configuration and said rollers positionally fixed with respect to said cooling chamber; and

an end section reached by said rollers along said movement direction by said closing position of said storage compartment; and

means for disengaging at least part of said mating toothed configuration from said external toothed configuration of at least one of said two rollers, said disengagement means disposed at said end section and having a disengagement length sufficient to compensate for an oblique positioning of said storage compartment in and counter to said movement direction arising from an offset of said two rollers from one another along said mating toothed configuration.

Claim 9 (new): A refrigerating unit, comprising:

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a cooling chamber having two longitudinal sides;

a storage compartment removably guided into and out of said cooling chamber in a movement direction, said storage compartment removably guided into said cooling chamber along said movement direction as far as a closing position;

said cooling chamber having a parallel-guiding device disposed on said two longitudinal sides along said movement direction;

said parallel-guiding device having:

a mating toothed configuration;

two roller assemblies coupled approximately rigidly to each other, lying opposite each other at least substantially on a given axis, and each having a respective external toothed configuration with an identical pitch circle diameter to be rollingly coupled to said mating toothed configuration and each having a respective roller section, one of said mating toothed configuration and said roller assemblies positionally fixed with respect to said cooling chamber, said roller section having a running surface, said running surface

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supporting a respective one of said roller assemblies in
said cooling chamber near said closing position; and

an end section reached by said roller assemblies along
said movement direction by said closing position of said
storage compartment; and

a disengagement device for disengaging at least part of said
mating toothed configuration from said external toothed
configuration of at least one of said two roller assemblies,
said disengagement device:

being disposed at said end section and having a
disengagement length sufficient to compensate for an
oblique positioning of said storage compartment in and
counter to said movement direction arising from an offset
of said two roller assemblies from one another along said
mating toothed configuration; and

being a sloping plane pushing said external toothed
configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed
configuration in a direction along said given axis
approximately before said storage compartment reaches
said closing position.

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Claim 10 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 9, wherein said two roller assemblies each have a respective energy accumulator for respectively pressing said external toothed configurations against said disengagement device.

Claim 11 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 10, wherein said energy accumulator is a spring.

Claim 12 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 1, wherein said disengagement device is a sloping plane pushing said external toothed configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration in a direction along said given axis immediately before said storage compartment reaches said closing position.

Claim 13 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 10, wherein:

said energy accumulator provides a force; and

each of said roller assemblies is divided substantially perpendicularly with respect to said given axis into:

a positionally-fixed section having a smooth-faced running surface; and

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an externally-toothed section displaceably mounted with respect to said given axis, in engagement with said mating toothed configuration, and supported on said positionally-fixed section by said energy accumulator, said externally-toothed section to be brought out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration counter to said force by said sloping plane at least immediately before said roller assembly reaches said end section.

Claim 14 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 13, wherein said externally-toothed section is to be brought out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration counter to said force by said sloping plane at least immediately before said storage compartment reaches said closing position.

Claim 15 (new): The refrigerating unit according to claim 9, wherein:

said disengagement device is a sloping plane pushing said external toothed configuration out of engagement with said mating toothed configuration in a direction along said given axis approximately before said roller assembly reaches said end section; and

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said running surface supports said roller assembly in said
cooling chamber approximately at said closing position.